

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of claims:**

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A screening method for identifying a potential antiviral agent comprising:

(a) contacting a cell that expresses (i) a reporter gene operatively linked to an interferon responsive promoter element and (ii) ~~an~~ a viral interferon antagonist, with a test agent, following stimulation of a cellular interferon response;

(b) monitoring a level of reporter gene product; and

(c) identifying the test agent as a potential antiviral agent when its presence results in an increase in reporter gene product.

7. (Original) The screening method of claim 6, wherein the reporter gene product is green fluorescence protein (GFP).

8. (Currently amended) The screening method of claim 6, wherein the interferon antagonist is influenza virus NS1 protein.

9. (Currently amended) The screening method of claim 6, wherein the interferon antagonist is vaccinia virus E3L protein.

10. (Currently amended) The screening method of claim 6, wherein the interferon antagonist is Ebola virus VP35 protein.